

INSTITUT
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**** INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY ****

BOOK LAUNCH

Poverty in Eighteenth-Century Spain:
The Women and Children of the Inclusa

The Inclusa was a foundling hospital originally established to preserve the honour of families from the shame of an illegitimate birth. But by the end of the 18th century, it was clear that a growing number of these infants were legitimate. Women left infants they could not afford to raise. Other women tried to supplement their meager family income by taking out infants as wet-nurses. Ultimately, the fate of most of these foundlings was to die, either in the hospital or in the care of the wet-nurse. The Inclusa had become a place where infants were exposed to the pain, hunger, and early death that were the lot of the poor in the 18th century.

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PLACE: Simone de Beauvoir Institute
2170 Bishop, Room 101 Lounge
Montreal

DATE: Wednesday, March 8, 1989

TIME: 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Wine and Cheese Reception

Joan Sherwood has an M.A. from Columbia University and a Ph.D. from the University of Toronto. She has taught in the Dept. of History at Queen's and Concordia Universities. Her fields are Women's History and the History of Spain. Dr. Sherwood is currently doing research on medical attitudes toward women and children in the early years of the 19th century with the assistance of a grant from the Hannah Foundation for History of Medicine.

For more information: 848-2373

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